

(Bouquet's Redoubt, Fort Pitt Blockhouse)
25 Penn Avenue, Point State Historic Park
(confluence of the Ohio, Allegheny and
Monongahela Rivers)
Pittsburgh
Allegheny County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-430

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

BOUQUET'S REDOUBT (FORT PITT BLOCKHOUSE)

Address: 25 Penn Avenue, Point State Historic Park (confluence of the Ohio, Allegheny, and Monongahela Rivers), Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Present Owner: Daughters of the American Revolution, Allegheny County.

Present Occupant: Museum and gift shop.

Present Use: Historic landmark.

Brief Statement of Significance: The structure was erected on the west side of the ramparts of Fort Pitt as greater protection against Indian attacks. It is the only known remaining eighteenth-century building in the Pittsburgh vicinity.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- A. Original and Subsequent Owners: 1764, built under the authority of Colonel Henry Bouquet, who was commander of the Fort Pitt Garrison at that time.
1785-1892, used as a dwelling.
c. 1875-1877, earliest known inhabitant was Mrs. Bridgett McDonough and two children.
1877-1884, second floor rented by the Lee sisters.
c. 1875-1884, first floor operated as a candy store by Mrs. Costella. Mrs. Costella occupied the second floor after 1884.
June 10, 1892, Miss Mary Elizabeth Schenley, then owner of the property presented it to the Daughters of the American Revolution of Allegheny County.
- B. Date of Erection: 1764.
- C. Notes on Original Plan and Construction of Building: Pentagonal in plan, stone foundation rising 5' above the ground level, brick walls above; timber framing; peaked roof.
- D. Notes on Known Alterations: 1875, Isaac Craig built a brick residence directly adjacent but not connected (4' space between) to the Redoubt (to the northwest). At this time, several openings were cut into the exterior walls: doorway and two windows in the southwest wall; doorway in the northeast wall; small window cut in the southeast wall over main entrance and small window at ground level to the left of the main entrance; doorway cut in the lower right side of the west wall; opening cut at the juncture of the north and west walls. 1875-1892, several sheds were built against the building during this time - no major alterations; second floor added

and partitioned into two spaces.
1892 and subsequent years, restored shortly after 1892 by
the Daughters of the American Revolution.

- E. Sources of Information: Part I. "The Point Park Commission"
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. December 31, 1943 (mimeographed).

Historic Sites and Buildings V. Development of the English
Colonies, 1700-1775 Fort Pitt - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
Special report by John P. Cowan, junior historian, National
Park Service.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural interest: Last known 18th-century
structure remaining in the Pittsburgh vicinity.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Over-all dimensions: Approximately 19' on each side,
two stories.
2. Foundations: Rubble masonry
3. Wall construction: Stone 5' above grade, brick above
with timbers "mortised with portholes for musketry."
4. Structural system, framing: Masonry (stone 5' above
grade and brick above) bearing walls with wood joists
spanning northeast to southwest; wood plank floors.
5. Chimneys: Brick chimney on the west side removed at
the time of restoration.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: One doorway on the southeast
side with a brick arched head. Stone plaque im-
bedded in the brick above reads "A.D. 1764 - Coll.
Bouquet." Plain random width tongue-and-groove
plank door - board and batten (not original).
 - b. Windows and shutters: None in restored building.
7. Roof: Five-panel pyramidal roof, wood shingles.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Pentagonal plan, two floors with one room on each floor.
2. Stairways: Modern ladder stair in northwest corner.
3. Flooring: First floor, modern concrete.
Second floor, random width wood plank (modern)
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Exposed bearing walls on interior. Exposed beams and planking on first floor ceiling and truncated pyramidal plank ceiling on the second floor.
5. Doorways and doors: No interior doors.
6. Lighting: Modern.
7. Heating: None remaining.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Entrances faces south-east. Building situated in small historical park which is adjacent to a group of high-rise commercial structures and surrounded by modern highways. The development of the area was not yet complete at the time of this inspection.
2. Outbuildings: Small caretaker's dwelling immediately to the southeast of the building.
3. Landscaping and walks: General park-like setting with a series of pedestrian walkways.

Prepared by John D. Milner, Architect
National Park Service
April 1963